

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

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SUBJ: CONGRESS OF UNION OF SOCIALIST YOUTH OF YUGOSLAVIA

1. SUMMARY: CONGRESS OF NEW UNION OF SOCIALIST YOUTH OF YUGOSLAVIA WILL BE HELD NOVEMBER 21-23 IN BELGRADE. NEW UNION COMBINES FORMER YOUTH UNION AND STUDENT UNION IN ATTEMPT TO CORRECT DEFICIENCIES IN OLD ORGANIZATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN STUDENT UNION. NEW QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCED BY YOUTH LEADERSHIP INDICATE ADDITIONAL ATTEMPT TO ORGANIZE FOR GREATER ACTION ORGANIZATION, ALTHOUGH THESE "QUALIFICATIONS" HAVE YET TO SHOW IN ELISTMENT OF MEMBERS. END SUMMARY

2. CONGRESS OF UNION OF SOCIALIST YOUTH OF YUGOSLAVIA (USY) WILL TAKE PLACE IN BELGRADE NOVEMBER 21-23. THIS CONGRESS WILL BE FIRST OF UNIFIED ORGANIZATION INCLUDING OLD YOUTH UNION OF STUDENT UNION. IT WILL CONCLUDE PERIOD OF INTENSIVE REORGANIZATION ENDING IN REPUBLICAN AND PROVINCIAL CONGRESSES AND A SERIES OF CONFERENCES BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF OLD FEDERAL YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS.

3. YOUTH UNION OFFICIAL, DRAGO ROKSANDIC, PRESIDENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMISSION, HAS EXPLAINED BACKGROUND
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OF ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES TO EMBOFFS. PRESENT

REORGANIZATIONS BASED ON EXPERIENCES
DURING PERIOD BEFORE 21ST SESSION OF LCY PRESIDUM
(DECEMBER 1971) SOUNDED END OF NATIONALIST INFLUENCES IN
LC. PARTY LEADERSHIP FOUND OLD UNIONS INSUFFICIENTLY UNIFIED
AND ACTION-ORIENTED TO SERVE EFFECTIVELY
AGAINST NATIONALIST PRESSURES. MOST NOTICEABLE ASPECT OF
LACK OF UNITY WAS DIVISION BETWEEN YOUTH "INTELLIGENTSIA"
IN STUDENT UNION AND WORKING YOUTH IN YOUTH UNION, HE
SAID. ADDITIONAL ASPECT WAS MANY SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS,
FOLK DANCES, SPORTS, ESPERANTO UNION, ETC., OPERATING
ENTIRELY INDEPENDENTLY, ALTHOUGH THEORETICALLY TIED TO YOUTH
UNION. LACK OF "ACTION-ORIENTATION" WAS INHERENT IN CONCEPTION
OF OLD YOUTH UNION AS "MOVEMENT" -- AIMING FOR TOTAL YOUTH
MEMBERSHIP -- RATHER THAN "ORGANIZATION" WITH
TIGHTLY-KNIT STRUCTURE WHOSE TOTAL MEMBERSHIP IS DEDICATED TO
WORK FOR ORGANIZATION PROGRAMS.

4. ABSORPTION OF STUDENT UNION INTO NEW USY, DECIDED ON THIS
YEAR, EVIDENTLY DREW INSPIRATION FROM INSTANCES OF OPPOSITION
TO GOVERNMENT POLICY IN SOME UNIVERSITIES, PARTICULARLY OVER
PAST YEAR. ROKSANDIC POINTED OUT NEGATIVE TENDENCIES
IN OLD YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS, PARTICULARLY RECURRENT APPEARANCES
OF NATIONALISM AMONG STUDENTS, AS MOTIVATION FOR
REORGANIZATION. THERE ARE SIGNS THAT NOT ALL
STUDENTS ARE PLEASED WITH CHANGES. YOUTH UNION PRESIDENT MAKSIMOVIC
NOTED RESISTANCE TO REORGANIZATION "PARTICULARLY IN
CERTAIN STUDENT CIRCLES" IN POLITIKA INTERVIEW SEPT 6. HE
LOCATED THESE STUDENTS IN CERTAIN UNIVERSITIES "WHICH ARE
NOT INTEGRATED WITH SOCIETY," IMPLICATING
PARTICULARLY BELGRADE, ZAGREB, AND LJUBLJANA.
(COMMENT: USY WOULD THEREFORE BE INTENDED TO ACHIEVE
INTERGRATION OF YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS BY BLENDING STUDENTS INTO
MORE COOPERATIVE MASS OF WORKING CLASS YOUTH.) BOSNIAN
PARTY SECRETARY TOLD BOSNIAN USY CONFERENCE IN OCTOBER
THAT "REORGANIZATION OF YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS WILL NARROW DOWN
POSSIBILITIES FOR MAKING USE OF INDIVIDUAL SECTIONS OF YOUNG
AS MANIPULATIVE INSTRUMENT ON PART OF NARROW-MINDED
SECTARIAN GROUPS AND OTHER CHAMPIONS OF ANTI-COMMUNISM AND ANTI-
MARXISM."

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5. THUS IDEA OF UNIFIED ORGANIZATION IS BEING IMPLEMENTED WITH
COMPLETE ABSORPTION OF STUDENT UNION INTO USY, ROKSANDIC SAID.
AS PLANNED INDIVIDUAL UNIVERSITIES WILL GENERALLY HAVE THEIR OWN
YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS, DISTINCT FROM CITY YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS, BUT
THESE WILL THEN BE TIED INTO USY PROBABLY AT REPUBLIC
LEVEL. FORMERLY INDEPENDENT SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS
AND CLUBS WILL BE TIED INTO USY USING NEW CONCEPT OF "COLLECTIVE
MEMBERSHIP", THROUGH WHICH THEY WILL BE MORE CLOSELY LINKED

TO PROGRAMS AND DIRECTIONS OF USY.

6. PROBLEM OF ACTION-ORIENTATION WILL BE ATTACKED IN PART BY NEW MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA, ROKSANDIC ASSERTED. PRESIDENT OF BELGRADE YOUTH UNION CEROVIC TOLD ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING IN BELGRADE THAT USY MEMBERS "WILL BE ONLY THOSE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE ADOPTED CLEAR-CUT ATTITUDE TOWARD OUR SELF-MANAGEMENT SOCIALIST SYSTEM AS THEIR CHOICE." (HOWEVER PRESENT INDICATIONS ARE - NOTABLY FROM STUDENTS UNDER PRESSURE TO JOIN - THAT CURRENT USY MEMBERSHIP DRIVE DIFFERS LITTLE FROM MASS ENLISTMENT OF OLD YOUTH AND STUDENT UNIONS.)

7. EMPHASIS ON ACTION-ORIENTATION ALSO SHOWING IN COCFROVERSY OVER DRAFT ACTION-POLITICAL PROGRAM TO BE PRESENTED TO USY CONGRESS. INITIAL DRAFT WAS DISCARDED ON GROUNDS IT WAS PRIMARILY RHETORIC. AZEM VLASI, CANDIDATE FOR USY PRESIDENT, ANNOUNCED SECOND DRAFT AS "PROGRAM OF POLITICAL ACTION, NOT ... OF POLITICAL CONCLUSIONS AND DECLARATIONS." (MLADOST OCT 3). BORBA, COMMENTING ON ABOVE, NOTED CRITICISM OF EXCESSIVE VERBIAGE IN SECOND DRAFT ALSO. (SEVM 25) SECOND DRAFT IS EXPECTED TO BE PRESENTED TO CONGRESS AND REVISED FURTHER AT THAT TIME, ROKSANDIC TOLD EMOFFS.
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